

## Message Text

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ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-04 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 AID-05 IGA-02

MC-02 ACDA-05 OMB-01 PRS-01 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00

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P 031500Z FEB 76

FM AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 7562

INFO SECDEF WASHDC PRIORITY

USCINCEUR

S E C R E T NAIROBI 1082

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MASS, US, KE

SUBJECT: KENYA ARMS ASSISTANCE DELEGATION TO U.S.

REF (A) 75 NAIROBI 10838 (NOTAL), (B) 75 STATE 301803  
(NOTAL) (C) NAIROBI 0487, (D) STATE 016627

1. KENYA FINANCE MINISTRY PERMSEC NG'ANG'A AND DEFENSE MINISTRY PERMSEC KIEREINI CALLED IN DCM TO CLARIFY WHAT THEY WOULD LIKE TO DO DURING THEIR FORTHCOMING WASHINGTON VISIT. DELEGATION WILL BE COMPOSED OF SAME FOUR PERSONS REPORTED REFTEL C AND WILL ARRIVE WASHINGTON FEB. 16. IF POSSIBLE, DELEGATION WOULD LIKE TO HAVE ALL APPOINTMENTS SCHEDULED FOR THREE-DAY PERIOD FEB. 17-19.

2. WHILE ACKNOWLEDGING THAT SOME DISCUSSIONS ON PURELY TECHNICAL PLANE NEED NOT INVOLVE ALL MEMBERS OF DELEGATION, KIEREINI AND NG'ANG'A WOULD GENERALLY PREFER TO HAVE ENTIRE DELEGATION ATTEND ALL MEETINGS HAVING POLICY IMPLICATIONS, INCLUDING THOSE ON FINANCING AS WELL AS HARDWARE. BECAUSE OF KENYA'S URGENT NEED FOR FINANCING, CG'ANG'A REQUESTS THAT HIGH PRIORITY BE GIVEN TO MEETINGS WITH SENIOR TREASURY AND OTHER USG OFFICIALS CONCERNED WITH FMS CREDITS AND MAP FINANCING. NG'ANG'A WILL BE PREPARED

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TO BRIEF AND RESPOND FULLY TO QUESTIONS ON KENYA'S

CURRENT ECONOMIC SITUATION AND OUTLOOK. HE PLANS TO EXPLORE POSSIBILITIES OF LONGER MATURITIES AND CONCESSIONAL INTEREST RATES ON FMS CREDITS. ALTHOUGH DISCOURAGED BY EMBASSY, HE WILL PROBABLY ASK ABOUT POSSIBILITY OF MAP MATERIEL PROGRAM. NG'ANG'A RECOGNIZES, OF COURSE, FINANCIAL SIDE CANNOT BE DEALT WITH IN ISOLATION FROM HARDWARE DECISIONS.

3. ON HARDWARE SIDE, KIEREINI AND MILITARY OFFICERS WILL BE PREPARED TO BRIEF USG OFFICIALS ON GOK THREAT PERCEPTIONS AND ARMS REQUIREMENTS. NG'ANG'A AND KIEREINI ACKNOWLEDGED THAT SHOPPING LIST TRANSMITTED BY REF A IS CONSIDERABLY MORE AMBITIOUS THAN THEY WOULD EXPECT U.S. OR ANY OTHER SINGLE DONOR COUNTRY TO PICK UP AND EXPLICITLY CONFIRMED THAT GOK IS NOT SEEKING TO HAVE U.S. BECOME KENYA'S PREDOMINATE ARMS SUPPLIER. THEY WOULD LIKE, HOWEVER, TO ARRANGE FOR EACH ARMS DONOR COUNTRY TO CONCENTRATE ASSISTANCE IN SOME FIELD OR SERVICE IN MANNER WHICH WOULD MINIMIZE PROBLEMS OF EQUIPMENT AND TRAINING INCOMPATIBILITY. THEY SUGGESTED THAT U.S. MAY WISH TO FOCUS ITS ASSISTANCE ON PROGRAM TO MODERNIZE AND STRENGTHEN KENYA AIR FORCE IF ADEQUATE FINANCING WOULD APPEAR TO BE AVAILABLE. IN THIS CONNECTION, KIEREINI ADVISED THAT DECISION HAD BEEN MADE TO SHIFT SQUADRON OF F-5E AIRCRAFT FROM SECOND PHASE TO FIRST PHASE OF REF A SHOPPING LIST AND TO MOVE SQUADRON OF A-4'S TO PHASE TWO. EMBASSY RECOMMENDS THAT STATE AND DOD BE PREPARED TO DISCUSS AIR FORCE ASSISTANCE PACKAGE WHICH WOULD APPEAR TO BE FINANCIALLY FEASIBLE OVER MULTIYEAR PERIOD. PREPARATIONS SHOULD ALSO BE MADE TO DISCUSS ARMY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM AS POSSIBLE ALTERNATIVE. EMBASSY HAS, OF COURSE, REPEATEDLY CAUTIONED GOK OFFICIALS THAT FIRM MULTIYEAR FINANCIAL COMMITMENTS CANNOT BE MADE AND THAT CONGRESS IS BECOMING INCREASINGLY RESTRICTIVE ON MILITARY ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS.

4. DELEGATION WOULD LIKE TO HAVE OPPORTUNITY TO CALL ON APPROPRIATE SENIOR OFFICIALS CONCERNED WITH MILITARY ASSISTANCE AT BEGINNING OF VISIT IF POSSIBLE. WHILE

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DELEGATION DOES NOT HAVE MINISTERIAL RANK, DEPARTMENT SHOULD BEAR IN MIND WHILE ARRANGING APPOINTMENTS THAT NG'ANG'A AND KIEREINI ARE THE TOP CIVIL SERVANTS IN THEIR RESPECTIVE MINISTRIES. MOREOVER, BECAUSE OF PRESENT DEFENSE MINISTER'S ILL HEALTH AND PRIMARY CONCERN WITH POLITICS, KIEREINI, IN EFFECT, FUNCTIONS AS HEAD OF ENTIRE KENYA DEFENSE ESTABLISHMENT AND DEALS DIRECTLY WITH PRESIDENT KENYATTA ON DEFENSE

MATTERS.

5. WOULD APPRECIATE RECEIVING ASAP DETAILS ON DELEGATIONS'S SCHEDULE AS WELL AS ANY OTHER INFORMATION ON HARDWARE OR FINANCING POSSIBILITIES OR PROPOSALS WHICH SHOULD BE TRANSMITTED TO GOK BEFORE DELEGATION LEAVES NAIROBI FEBRUARY 13.

MARSHALL

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## Message Attributes

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**Concepts:** MILITARY EQUIPMENT, ARMS, FINANCE, ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE, MEETING AGENDA, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS, MILITARY ASSISTANCE AGREEMENTS, VISITS  
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